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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Cross Reference:

Please add a "Cross-Reference" paragraph as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/261,267, filed January, 16, 2001.--

Please replace the 3rd paragraph beginning on page 1, line 14 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Inks may be colored using either dyes or pigments. It is generally pointed out that an image obtained when using ink containing a water-soluble dye has poor water fastness and light fastness. In an image obtained when using ink containing a pigment as a colorant, however, the colorant is likely to be left near the surface of the recording medium. An image obtained by ink containing pigment as a colorant has light fastness. This unsatisfactory fixation of the colorant on the surface of the recording medium results in the formation of a print in which, when the image is rubbed, the recording medium becomes smeared with the pigment. Prior art methods propose the addition of a resin to the ink composition in order to improve the fixation of the colorant onto the recording medium. The resin functions as a binder to strongly fix the colorant onto the recording medium. For example, laid-open Japanese Patent Application No. ~~157668~~ 07-157668 demonstrates a conventional resin-containing ink composition including, for example, an ink comprising a colorant dispersed in a water-insoluble, resin emulsion dispersion.--

Please replace the 2nd paragraph beginning on page 2, line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Another ink jet recording method has been proposed in Laid-Open Japanese Patent Application No. ~~202328~~ 05-202328. This method comprises applying a polyvalent metal salt

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solution onto a recording medium and then applying an ink composition containing a dye having at least one carboxyl group. According to this method, polyvalent metal ions combine with the dye to form a precipitate, which can provide a high quality image having water resistance, and which is free from color bleeding.--

Please replace the 3rd paragraph beginning on page 2, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Recording methods that comprise the steps of printing two solutions, a first solution and an ink composition, such as JP Application ~~202328~~ 05-202328 have also been disclosed, by way of example, in U.S. Pat. No. 5,948,512. A first solution contains a polyvalent metal salt and/or a polyallylamine, which is used in combination with an ink composition containing an inorganic oxide colloid, and optionally an epoxy-containing compound. The first solution is deposited onto a recording medium, and the ink composition is then deposited by ink jet printing, realizing an evenly printed image with no significant feathering, which is free from color bleeding.--